Over 65 lakh households under PM Surya Ghar (target 1 crore): PM at Bharat Renewable Energy Summit; 'PM Surya Sarovar Yojana' for floating solar on water bodies

Energy · 3 November 2026 · https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/current-affairs-english/2026/11/03



News

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo 2026' at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on 2 Nov 2026 (held alongside the 9th Assembly of the International Solar Alliance). He said over 65 lakh households have joined the 'PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana' – launched in Feb 2024 with a target of 1 crore homes – in about two years, with about 1 lakh new homes added every six days. He added that the 'PM Surya Sarovar Yojana', which puts solar panels on reservoirs, ponds and lakes, saves land-acquisition costs. (Note: Surya Sarovar is not new – the Union Cabinet approved it on 31 July 2026.)

Key facts

Surya Sarovar approval	Union Cabinet, 31 July 2026; outlay ₹5,070 crore; ministry – MNRE
Target	About 5,000 MW floating solar + at least 2-hour storage (about 10,000 MWh in all)
Central aid	₹1 crore per MW after commissioning; up to ₹50 lakh per project for feasibility studies; sanctions 2026–27 to 2030–31

India's potential	About 102 GWp (NISE assessment, June 2026); leading States include Maharashtra, MP
Surya Ghar	Feb 2024; target 1 crore homes; 65 lakh+ by Nov 2026
Non-fossil capacity	Over 50% of installed capacity; nearly 300 GW achieved towards the 500 GW target (PMO)

Background

- Science: water cools floating solar panels and raises their efficiency (solar cells lose efficiency as they heat up); shading the reservoir also cuts evaporation. But the upfront cost is higher than for land-based solar.
- Geography: the Omkareshwar floating solar park – on the Narmada reservoir, Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh; planned capacity 600 MW, of which the 278 MW first phase was launched by the PM on 25 Dec 2024. NTPC's 100 MW floating plant at Ramagundam (Telangana) has been in commercial operation since 1 July 2022.
- Economy: the COP-26 pledge is 500 GW of non-fossil capacity by 2030. India met its Paris goal of half its installed capacity from non-fossil sources in 2025, five years early. The PM announced a new goal of adding another 500 GW over the next 10–11 years.
- Schemes: PM-KUSUM has given solar irrigation to over 30 lakh farmers; over 44,000 government buildings run on solar power (saving about ₹700 crore a year).

Tamil Nadu link: Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Ltd (TNGECL) has planned the State's first floating solar pilots at seven sites – including Mettur, Bhavanisagar and Vaigai dams, Red Hills (Puzhal) lake, Sathanur dam and a TNGECL site at Avalanche – about 100 MW in the first phase. The State's potential is estimated at about 3,000 MW across 57 reservoirs (Apr 2026).

Shanmugam IAS Academy – your next step

- **Courses:** TNPSC Group 1, 2 / 2A (Prelims + Mains), Group 4, UPSC / IAS – Coimbatore · Madurai · Online – https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/fees
- **Books (PDF):** TNPSC PYQ books, UPSC books – https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/study-materials
- **Free quiz + daily PDFs:** https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/free-pdf-download · All news of this day: https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/current-affairs-english/2026/11/03

Admissions – call / WhatsApp: 99941 46662 · 99944 27714 · www.shanmugamiasacademy.in